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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/534,565	11/23/2005	Hans-Gunther Donges	785-012219-US (PAR)	6522

2512 7590 03/09/2007  
PERMAN & GREEN  
425 POST ROAD  
FAIRFIELD, CT 06824

EXAMINER
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FUQUA, SHAWNTINA T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3742

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/09/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/534,565	DONGES, HANS-GUNTHER	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Shawntina T. Fuqua	3742	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 May 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21, 22, 24, 25, 27-36 and 38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 23, 26, 37 and 39 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 May 2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/6/05</u>  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claims 22, 37, and 38 are objected to because of the following informalities: they depend from canceled claims. For examination purposes, Examiner assumes claim 22 will depend from claim 21, and claims 37-38 will depend from claim 36. Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 21-22, 24-25, 27-36, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al (US6518551) in view of Sakuyama et al (US5607609).

Watanabe et al discloses a plate heating element/first shaped article (6) with a plurality of electrically conductive tracks (1, 2) which are independently controlled and arranged so that any desired temperature distribution may be achieved (column 7, lines 30-34; column 8, lines 43-50), temperature sensors (4, 5a, 5b), one track per second shaped article/plate (Figure 2E), electrical power is controlled via temperature sensor and is applied to the track of the first shaped article/plate (column 8, lines 43-50), and the heating element is a film (column 8, lines 60-65). In addition, Watanabe et al also discloses that the heating element can be arranged/clamped via a plurality of plates/layers/shaped articles (column 8, lines 60-column 9, lines 18; Figures 2D, 2E).

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Watanabe et al does not disclose the heating element/first shaped article arranged between a second and third shaped article, an electrically insulating layer between the first shaped article and the second shaped article, a heat insulating, resilient third shaped article, an aluminum shaped article, heating element is a printed circuit board, and heating element is a part of a preheating station. Sakuyama et al discloses a heating element/first shaped article (52, 53) arranged between a second (55) and third (51) shaped article, an electrically insulating layer (54) between the first and second shaped articles, a heat insulating, resilient third shaped article (51), an aluminum shaped article (column 4, lines 34-35), heating element is a printed circuit board (column 3, lines 19-33), and heating element is a part of a preheating station (column 3, lines 10-16). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included the heat insulating third shaped article, electrically insulating layer, printed circuit board, and preheating station of Sakuyama et al in the heater of Watanabe et al because a third heat insulating layer allows for a more uniform heating, an electrically insulating layer prevents transfer of electricity, and a preheating station reduces thermal shock to the printed circuit board.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

4. Claims 23, 26, 37, and 39 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

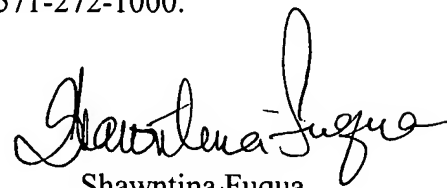
***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawntina T. Fuqua whose telephone number is (571) 272-4777. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8-4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Philip Leung can be reached on (571) 272-4782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

stf  
March 2, 2007

  
Shawntina Fuqua  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3742